

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for converting analog video data into digital form, the apparatus comprising:
 - an analog video cassette player for producing analog video output;
 - an analog to digital converter for converting said analog video output into digital data;
 - at least one recorder employing a digital storage medium for storing said digital data,wherein said cassette player, said ~~at least one~~ converter and said storage medium are disposed within a single container wherein said digital storage medium is insertable into and removable from said container; and
 - a key frame marker for inserting at least one marker into the digital data.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a video port for receiving analog video information from an external source.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the video cassette player employs a VHS format.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the digital storage medium is one of a CD R or a CD RW.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the digital storage medium is a recordable DVD.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the digital storage medium is selectable by the user.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
 - wherein the a key frame marker for marking marks abrupt changes in video image sequences, thereby enabling a user to readily locate a beginning and an end of a particular video sequence.
8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising: wherein the a key frame marker for marking marks positions in a sequence of said digital data at selectable time intervals.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the video cassette player employs the 8 mm format.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving analog video data in digital form, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a container;

producing analog video output from an analog video tape in said container;

converting said analog video output into digital video data in said container;

inserting a removable digital storage medium into said container; and

storing said digital video data in [[a]] ~~said non-volatile~~ digital storage medium thereby protecting said data against degradation over time in said container; and

providing a single container to perform the steps of producing, converting, and storing.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 comprising the further step of: determining a required digital storage format prior to said step of converting based upon detection of a format of [[an]] said inserted storage medium.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 comprising the further step of: inserting at least one marker in said digital video data to identify abrupt changes in video scenery, thereby enabling a user to readily identify particular video sequences during playing of said digital video data.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, comprising the further step of: inserting at least one marker in said digital video data at selectable time intervals, thereby enabling a user to readily move to selected chronological points in a video sequence during playing of said digital video data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the digital storage medium is one of CD R or CD RW.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the digital storage medium is a recordable DVD.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the digital storage medium is digital tape.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the analog video tape is in VHS format.

18. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the analog video tape is in 8 mm format.

19. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for preserving analog video data in digital form, the apparatus comprising:

a video cassette player for producing analog video output from an inserted video cassette;

an analog to digital converter for converting said analog video output into digital data thereby protecting said data against degradation of over time; and

one of a CD recorder and a DVD recorder for storing said digital data onto at least one inserted digital storage medium, thereby transferring said analog video from said inserted cassette to said inserted digital medium, wherein said video cassette player, said analog to digital converter, and said digital storage medium are disposed within a single container.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:
a key frame marker for inserting index markers in said digital data marking abrupt changes in video image sequences, and alternatively, at selectable time intervals.

21. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
removing the digital storage medium from said container after storing said digital video data in said digital storage medium.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the digital storage medium is insertable into and removable from said single container.